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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national bridge replacement and improvement program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. EMMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national bridge replacement and improvement program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. NATIONAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND IM-**
4 **PROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
6 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
7 portation shall establish a national bridge replacement and
8 improvement program (in this section referred to as the

1 “Program”) to assist safety improvements for high-risk
2 intersections and interchanges.

3 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the Pro-
4 gram, the Secretary may make grants on a competitive
5 basis to covered entities.

6 (c) PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may
7 only make a grant under the Program to assist a project
8 that—

9 (1) is a bridge on a Federal-aid highway that
10 is eligible for funding under title 23, United States
11 Code; and

12 (2) will—

13 (A) restore or increase the structural ca-
14 pacity of the bridge;

15 (B) correct a major safety defect of the
16 bridge; or

17 (C) replace an existing bridge with a new
18 bridge that—

19 (i) is in the same general traffic cor-
20 ridor as the bridge being replaced, as de-
21 termined by the Secretary; and

22 (ii) meets the requirements of sub-
23 paragraph (A) or (B).

24 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
25 the Program, a covered entity shall submit to the Sec-

1 return an application in such form, at such time, and con-
2 taining such information as the Secretary determines is
3 appropriate.

4 (e) LIMITATION.—The aggregate amount provided to
5 a covered entity in a fiscal year through grants under the
6 Program may not exceed 5 percent of the amount made
7 available for all grants under the Program in that fiscal
8 year.

9 (f) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.—At least 90 days be-
10 fore establishing the Program under subsection (a), the
11 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report detailing the
12 selection process the Secretary shall use in making grants
13 under the Program.

14 (g) COVERED ENTITY DEFINED.—In this section, the
15 term “covered entity” means any of the following:

16 (1) A State government entity.

17 (2) A local government entity.

18 (3) A territory of the United States.

19 (4) A Tribal government.

20 (5) A metropolitan planning organization.

21 (6) Any entity composed of 2 or more entities
22 described in paragraphs (1) through (5).

23 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
25 appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other

1 than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out the
2 Program \$1,250,000,000 for each fiscal year.

3 (2) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23, UNITED
4 STATES CODE.—Funds authorized to be appro-
5 priated by paragraph (1) shall—

6 (A) be available for obligation in the same
7 manner as if those funds were apportioned
8 under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code,
9 except that the Federal share of the cost of a
10 project or activity carried out using such funds
11 shall be 80 percent; and

12 (B) remain available until expended and
13 not be transferable.